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APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

25 November 1977

JFK ACT
RELEASE

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Robert Barteaux
Chief, Information Services Staff,
Information Processing Group

FROM : Maurice A. Sovern
Office of the Special Assistant
to the DDO for External Oversight

SUBJECT : Dr. Martin Luther King and
Mr. James Earl Ray

REFERENCES : A. House Select Committee on
Assassinations' Letter dated
11 November 1977, Same Subject

B. O/SA/DDO Letter, 2 March 1977,
Subject: DOJ Inquiry - Martin Luther
King, Jr. Task Force

1. As you will note from the attached, the HSCA asks for our material on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for the period 1963 through 1968 and our material on Mr. James Earl Ray for the period 1967 through 1968.

2. As was indicated in reference B, you provided a substantial amount of Directorate material which was sanitized for review by a DOJ task force in its efforts to review the extent and nature of the FBI/CIA contacts concerning the Reverend Dr. King. We indicated at that time to the OLC that we would hold the sanitized King material, which was prepared for the Justice investigation, for possible eventual review by the investigators from the HSCA. We believe that this material that we have, previously made available to Justice, is most pertinent to the HSCA investigation; however, the distinction in the original request was that we permit them to review FBI material. In this instance, since we are talking about third agency material, we should confine our review to Directorate material indicating only that there is FBI material available.

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3. As the material is developed, and if it is required that the Directorate be requeried, please keep the undersigned advised. We suggest a deadline of 15 December 1977 in view of your other priorities.

Maurice A. Sovern

Attachment

O/SA/DO/O:MASovern:kaw (1542)

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